

**From:** BC Synod - ELCIC [bcynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcynod@elcic.ca)  
**Subject:** Synod Announcements - January 15, 2025  
**Date:** January 15, 2025 at 11:29 AM  
**To:** [oslcospika@gmail.com](mailto:oslcospika@gmail.com)



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## British Columbia Synod

Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada

**January 15, 2025**

BC Synod announcements are sent out on **Wednesdays**. Do you have an announcement you want to send out? Please send it to [bcynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcynod@elcic.ca) **no later than 9:00 pm on the Sunday prior to the week of first publication**. All announcements may be edited as needed. Thank you.

### Prayer Petitions for This Sunday and Next Sunday

To download the **BC Synod 2024-2025 Prayer List for Congregations**, please [click here](#). It can also be found on our website [bcynod.org](http://bcynod.org) under the Resources.

*Sunday January 19th we pray for:*  
*Faith Lutheran in Kelowna - Rev. Brian Krushel*  
*Gloria Dei Lutheran in North Vancouver - Rev. Vida Jaugelis*

**Lutheran-Anglican-Moravian Full Communion Cycle of Prayer.** Please [click here](#)

### HIGHLIGHTS

- **NEW Jan 18-25** [Week of Prayer for Christian Unity](#)
- **NEW Jan 19** [Learning Forum With Shadia Qubti this Sunday at Gloria Dei](#)
- **NEW Jan 20** [Six Weekly Workshops on Intergenerational Spiritual Formation](#)
- **NEW** [Treasurer Handbook Survey - from the ELCIC](#)

- **Jan 31** [Application Deadline for Campus Ministry Grants](#)
- **NEW** [A Request from Pastor Hergy](#)
- **NEW Feb 15** [Mission Fund Grant Application Deadline](#)
- **Feb 28** [Convention Assessment fees due to the BC Synod office](#)
- **May 5-7** [Save the Date - BC Synod Study Conference at Loon Lake](#)
- **NEW** [Thank You Message from CLWR](#)
- [CLWR Placemats for Pancake Tuesday](#)
- **NEW** [National Convention - Online Pre-Identification Form Now Available](#)
- [National Convention - Nominations for ELCIC Leadership Award](#)
- [National Convention - Discernment Process](#)

**For more details, other announcements,  
prayer requests and resources, [see below](#).**

## PRAYERS

### Prayer for Pastor Kristen Steele

Thank you for your continued prayers for Pastor Kristen, her family and the people of Shepherd of the Valley in Langley.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Potluck Lunch and Learning Forum with Shadia Qubti

Sunday, January 19, 2025

11:15 am - 1:00 pm

Gloria Dei Lutheran Church

Gloria Dei is holding a learning forum with Shadia Qubti this Sunday, Jan 19 to speak about Palestinian struggles living under occupation.

Click [here](#) to read more about the event.

## A Request from Pastor Hergy

Pastor Richard Hergesheimer is seeking ideas and suggestions for full services/liturgies for a Christmas Eve Carol, Candlelight, and Communion service to switch things up next year. Please feel free to email him or pass information through the synod office.

Thank you.

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## ELCIC Mission Fund Grant Applications

We are inviting applications for grants to fund neighbourhood and community experiments and learning opportunities that meet one or more of the following criteria:

- a) explore what God is doing in your neighbourhood
- b) seek to develop relationships with others in your community
- c) encourage participation in God's mission in the local community
- d) encourage action and reflection learning

Through these experiments, we will continue to learn from and with each other as we share our stories, experiences, and our learning with the rest of our synod and the wider church. Experiments need not be large-scale or require the commitment of large dollar amounts. Successful applications are inspired by imagination and a curiosity about what God is up to in our midst.

Grants are funded by the ELCIC through the ELCIC Mission Fund and are given on a one-time basis and are not intended to subsidize ongoing funding needs of regular church programming. Grant recipients will be invited to submit the "faith story" of their missional experiments, which will be shared with the synod and the communities and be asked to give an accounting of how the grant money is spent, and to return any unused funds.

**The application deadline is February 15, 2025.**

Applications and information can be found [here](#).

Please note that all congregations and groups that receive funding must complete the reporting form when their experiment is complete. This allows us to reconcile funds and report to the National Church, which is a requirement of our committee. It also gives you a chance to reflect with your team and share your experience with us. The updated reporting form contains both reflection questions and a space for financial reconciliation, and is available in word or pdf format here: <https://bcsynod.org/resources/funds-grants>

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## BC Synod Study Conference

Plans are underway for our BC Synod Study Conference at **Loon Lake in Maple Ridge, BC** from **May 5-7, 2025**. The estimated registration costs are: for rostered leaders \$650, retired rostered and students \$250.

Bursaries will be available.

Spouses and family are welcome.

More information will follow.

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## Campus Ministry Grants 2025

As a synod we are seeking to support and inspire those with a passion for campus ministry. Towards this end, we are once again offering campus ministry grants of up to \$5,000 for projects or experiments with students at post-secondary institutions around our synod.

You don't need to be a campus pastor or have a presence on a campus to apply. If you have an idea for ministry to students we'd love to hear from you. [You can download the application form here.](#)

**The deadline for applications is January 31, 2025.** You may submit more than one application for consideration. However, if you were the recipient of a grant last year, we simply request that you provide some reporting on the progress or results of your project(s) **by January 15, 2025.** [A reporting form is available here.](#)

Please submit your completed application(s) to the synod office at [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca). You will receive an email confirming the receipt of your application. Please contact the BC Synod office at 604-524-1318 if you do not receive your confirmation by February 1, 2025.

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## BC Synod delegate fees for National Convention

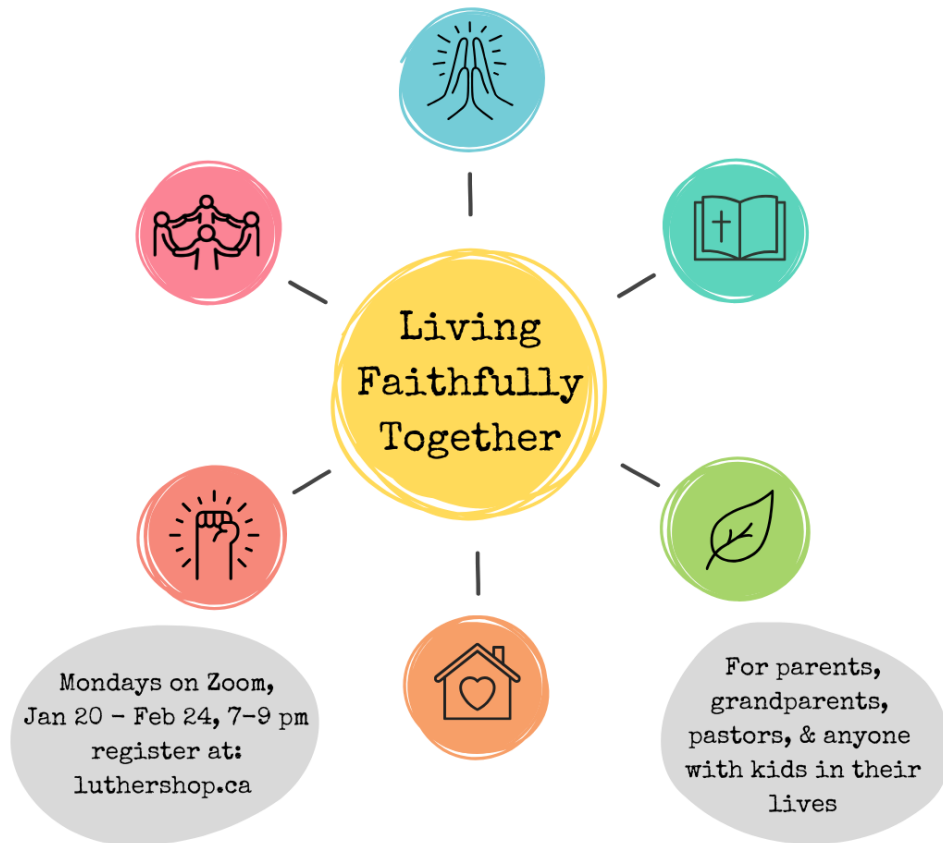
The 2025 ELCIC National Convention will take place July 10 – 13, 2025 in Winnipeg, Manitoba. Of the 150 delegates attending the National Convention, 20 will be from the BC Synod, comprised of 12 lay delegates (which include 8 younger delegates aged 16-30) and 8 rostered delegates. The selection of these delegates took place at the June 2024 BC Synod Convention.

For more information on the fees and the breakdown please click [here](#).

Thank you.

## ELCIC NEWS

### SIX WORKSHOPS ON **Intergenerational Spiritual Formation**



Martin Luther University College in Waterloo is offering a series of Zoom workshops for **6 weeks, Monday evenings 7 – 9 EST, starting January 20<sup>th</sup> \$25 covers the cost of all six workshops.**

Workshops will focus on empowering adults to engage with our rich faith tradition in ways that prepare both themselves and their children to pragmatically, faithfully, and resiliently face real-life challenges in our world. Each workshop will include 'take home' activities that participants can apply in their own contexts. either at home or in their

church community, as well as further resources (stories, music, curriculum) they can explore.

Registration link: <https://luthershop.ca/products/living-faithfully-together-practices-for-intergenerational-spiritual-formation>

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## Treasurers Handbook Survey

Attention congregational treasurers! The national office is asking for your participation in completing the JotForm at the link below. This form is designed to gather information across the treasurers of the church on the things we would like to see in the updated treasurers' handbook. Your input and feedback is greatly appreciated.

Link Below.

[Treasurers Handbook Survey](#)

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## Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 2025

January 18 - 25, 2025 - various locations

For more information please visit the event page [here](#) on the BC Synod website.



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## 2025 National Convention News

### Online Pre-Identification Form Now Available

In accordance with the [discernment process](#) for electing a new national bishop, the ELCIC is [providing the following link](#) for the pre-identification process, to which individuals have the opportunity to identify someone with the skills and gifts for the call to serve as national bishop. This pre-identification process will place through to March 31, 2025.

Pre-identified candidates will need endorsement from eight ELCIC members - four rostered and four lay. Each ELCIC member is eligible to provide endorsement of one individual throughout this process.

[The pre-identification form can be found here.](#)

Delegates will vote for a new national bishop at [2025 National Convention](#). If you have questions on the process, please submit them via email to [discernment@elcic.ca](mailto:discernment@elcic.ca).

### Nominations Are Open for the ELCIC Leadership Award

Worship discipleship Give  
Spirited mission rostered/lay Life  
Supporting contribution Service  
Outstanding NOMINATION active church Ministry  
congregation Community

Do you know someone, rostered or lay, who should be recognized for their outstanding contribution in service to the wider church? Nominate them for the **ELCIC Leadership Award!** This award will be presented at the 2025 National Convention to an individual committed to advancing the mission and ministry of the ELCIC and who has demonstrated leadership. This award was most recently presented at Assembly 2023 in July to Pat Lovell. To find more information including **downloading the Nomination Form**, [please click here](#). All nominations must be postmarked or emailed **by February 28, 2025**.

Discernment Process Launched in Advance of ELCIC National Bishop Election





After 18 years of service leading the ELCIC as national bishop, Rev. Susan Johnson has announced she will be retiring from her role at the conclusion of her current term, which coincides with the 2025 National Convention.

To assist the church in this transition, National Church Council (NCC) has thoughtfully considered a discernment process in the lead up to the election of the new national bishop.

[More information can be found here.](#)

Resources for the 2025 National Convention and the discernment process [can be downloaded here.](#)

## MORE NEWS

### **Thank You Message from CLWR**

Thank you for being part of the incredible impact we made together in 2024! Your partnership has been vital in this life-saving work. We have created a short video highlighting the incredible things your support made possible this year. Please take a few minutes to watch it [here](#) and feel free to share within your congregations.

Once again, thank you for your partnership and we look forward to continuing our mission together in 2025 and beyond!

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### **CLWR Placemats for Pancake Tuesday**





Bishop Kathy Martin - [kmartinbcsynod@gmail.com](mailto:kmartinbcsynod@gmail.com)  
Rachel Genge (Administrative Assistant + BC Canada Lutheran editor - remote) -  
[bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)  
Durga Pandithurai (Administrative Assistant - Synod Office) - [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)  
Rev. Elina Singh (Assistant to the Bishop + Executive Administrator - Synod Office) -  
[esinghbcsynod@gmail.com](mailto:esinghbcsynod@gmail.com)  
Rev. Matthew Senf (Assistant to the Bishop for Ecumenical and Interfaith Relations -  
deployed) - [msef@elcic.ca](mailto:msef@elcic.ca)  
Rev. Aneeta Saroop (Assistant to the Bishop for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion -  
deployed) - [asaroop@elcic.ca](mailto:asaroop@elcic.ca)  
Rev. Dr. Larry Kochendorfer (Assistant to the Bishop for Special Service - remote) -  
[lkochedorfer@elcic.ca](mailto:lkochedorfer@elcic.ca)

eTransfers are linked to the office email address: [bcsynod@elcic.ca](mailto:bcsynod@elcic.ca)

Auto Deposit has been enabled. No password is required.

The message field of the eTransfer should explain what the payment is for. (It is like the memo field of a cheque, but with more space). If a congregation is doing their monthly congregation remittance, then the remittance form can be emailed or mailed separately at the same time that the transfer is done.

Do the church council and members of your congregation receive the  
Synod Announcements directly?

We encourage you to forward this email to them so that they can  
[sign up for The Synod Announcements](#)

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